

BOOK LIST ADOPTED FOR STATE SCHOOLS

State Board of Education Com-
pletes Work in Lengthy
Secret Session.

AWARDS TO MANY PUBLISHERS

Book Agent Berry Faints When
List Is Made Public—Arith-
metic Held Up.

With every member present, except
Governor Henry C. Stuart, the State
Board of Education yesterday after-
noon adopted practically the entire list
of textbooks that will be used in the
public schools of the State for four
years, commencing with to-morrow,
March 1. Superintendent R. C. Sternas
presided at what was probably one of
the most animated and memorable
meetings of its kind ever held in the
Commonwealth of Virginia.

The new list shows comparatively
few changes from the "preferred list"
tentatively agreed upon by the board
last spring.

While the deadlock on the proposal
of the B. F. Johnson Publishing Com-
pany to concede a reduction of 10 per
cent on its offer of last spring, pro-
vided the entire Johnson list should be
adopted, which was a new proposition
meant a sacrifice of \$5,000 in profits,
was never broken, many of the John-
son books were given place in the ac-
cepted list, including the basal readers,
ARITHMETIC, SPELLER AND ONE
READER HELD IN ABEYANCE.

The adoption of a fifth reader was
left in abeyance. Likewise action on
arithmetics and spellers. The adoption
of a history of Virginia was also
passed by for future action, in which
one or more of the members of the
present board may take no part, for the
term of Dr. J. L. Jarman, of Farmville,
expires to-day, and in the coming
spring the terms of Harris Harp, super-
intendent of schools, Roanoke, and
Frank T. West, superintendent of
schools, Louisa County, will expire.
Dr. Jarman will be succeeded by J. D.
Eggleston, president of the Virginia
Polytechnic Institute at Blacksburg,
who was elected last year by the Gen-
eral Assembly.

The list of maps and charts was
adopted. Action on Dr. J. A. C. Chan-
dler's history of the United States, "Our
Republic," was deferred, but it is prob-
able that the board will later accept
this history, arranging with Dr. Chan-
dler for the use of plates from which
the book will be printed by the Depart-
ment of Education.

DEEP SECRECY AS TO WHAT WENT ON IN MEETING

The proceedings being behind closed
doors, the story of this interesting
convulsion of the mind directing the
educational affairs of the State will
never be told in circumstantial detail.
But outward signs of the inward grace
that moved the meeting made it mani-
fest to the most casual observer that
the word "interesting" serves but as a
lame, feeble, halting and beggarly de-
scriptive adjective.

"Well, you may say that the closing
session was a veritable love feast,"
Secretary Evan R. Chesterman vouch-
safed at the finish of what had hap-
pened. The secretary stroked his
smooth-shaven, classically-turned chin
with his tapering white fingers, gazed
pensively out into the vast expanse of
space, and, smiling beatifically, he
purred:

WHEN LIST IS ANNOUNCED

"How about the swarm of agents of
publishers cavorting about the corridor
and ante-rooms, the tip-toeing excite-
ment among them when they learned
what books had been adopted, and
what about B. D. Berry, agent, who
swooned or fainted or threw a fit while
the exuberance was at its height?" he
was asked.

The secretary acknowledged that
there was some quite natural excite-
ment among the agents representing
the many manufacturers of the mental
ammunition with which the young life
is to do its shooting in Virginia in the
next four years. But he was very in-
sistent upon the point that the wind-up
of the executive session was nothing
short of a metaphorical love feast. He
explained the collapse of Mr. Berry,
who had been looking after the in-
terests of his firm with almost sublime
diffidence, punctuality and precision,
saying that it was quite true. Mr.
Berry had suffered a fainting spell.
But it was nothing, simply nothing.

NOT NECESSARY TO CALL ON GOVERNOR TO VOTE

Secretary Chesterman did all the
talking to the newspaper reporters for
the board members. By way of illus-
trating the gratifying harmony of the
board at the final session to determine
the award of book contracts, amount-
ing to many hundreds of thousands of
dollars—just how many hundred thou-
sands, Mr. Chesterman could not say
off-hand, there being quite a
number of changes in the textbooks—
the secretary said that it had not been
necessary to call upon the Governor
to vote on a single matter of business.
This meant that no question had been
contested by two members of the board,
and that the selection of books was in
every instance where an addition was
made to the list during the day practi-
cally unanimous.

GOVERNOR IS STILL CONFINED TO MANSION

Governor Stuart, who has shown a
deep interest in the matter of the book
(Continued on Fifth Page.)

"The Verthust Way to Baltimore"
York River-Chesapeake Bay, 618 P. M. M.
\$2.50, and superior service, 307 East
Main Street.

WAR BUDGET ADOPTED

German Estimates Include \$2,510,500,
-000 for Extraordinary Expenditures.

BERLIN, February 27 (via London).—
The Federal Council adopted to-day
the preliminary budget estimates, in-
cluding \$2,510,500,000 for extraordinary
expenditures. This amount is for carry-
ing on the war. The estimate of ordi-
nary expenditures is \$320,750,000.
Almost all the amount to be devoted to
war will be raised by loans. No redem-
ption of war loans is provided for,
as methods for such redemption can
only be decided upon after the war.
The treasury bonds credit is fixed at
1,000,000,000 marks (\$250,000,000).
Funds to provide for those killed in
the war amounted at the beginning of
February to 41,338,900 marks. The
armament levy is estimated at 969,
000,000 marks, of which, it is expected,
two installments of 320,000,000 marks
will be paid.

No separate colonial estimates will
be presented, as the war has inter-
rupted all communication with the
colonies.

The increase in revenue in the ordi-
nary budget is estimated at 25,306,450
marks, and the increased expenditure
at 130,365,000 marks.

BIG FIRE IN PEORIA

Several Buildings Destroyed, Causing
Loss of \$400,000.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
PEORIA, Ill., February 27.—Fire
late to-day, starting in the old Y. M.
C. A. Building on Jefferson Street, be-
tween Main and Hamilton Streets,
spread to adjoining buildings, causing
a loss estimated at \$400,000.

The old Y. M. C. A. is an office build-
ing of seven stories. The building,
adjoining Hamilton building and a
dozen two and three-story buildings
facing on Main Street were partially
destroyed. One-half the block is in
ashes.

One hundred and fifty persons having
offices in the fire-swept buildings lost
everything. The ruins hold securities
of the Peoria Endowment, valued at
over \$1,500,000. It is not known
whether the securities are intact.

SAVES \$5,060 BY USING CANAL

First Shipment of Cotton Goes From
Galveston to Yokohama.

WASHINGTON, February 27.—The
first shipment of cotton from the South,
amounting to 3,270 tons, went through
the Panama Canal on October 23 last
on the steamship Fourth Castle. It
was bound from Galveston for Yoko-
hama. The same steamship made the
return trip through the canal in Febru-
ary with a cargo from Seattle for
Liverpool made up principally of
wheat.

It was estimated that on her cotton
cargo the vessel saved \$5,060 by using
the canal, instead of going around
South America.

DISTILLING PLANTS FAIL

Two of Oldest Concerns in Kentucky
File Petitions in Bankruptcy.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., February 27.—The
Mattingsly & Moore Distilling Company
and the F. G. Walker Distilling Com-
pany, two of the oldest distilling com-
panies in Kentucky, to-day filed volun-
tary petitions in bankruptcy in the
United States court.

The Mattingsly & Moore Company
lists its liabilities at \$255,939, and as-
sets at \$264,394. The F. G. Walker
Company schedules liabilities of \$116,
252, assets \$91,770. The plants are
located at Bardstown, near here.

PROMINENT GUESTS ATTEND

Annual Banquet of Southern Society of
Washington Takes Place.

WASHINGTON, February 27.—The
annual banquet of the Southern Soci-
ety of Washington took place to-
night, with members of the Cabinet,
Supreme Court Justices, Congressmen
and others prominent in the social life
of the capital among the guests. The
speakers included Attorney-General
Clegg, Secretary Bryan, Assistant
Secretary Breckinridge, Chief Counsel
Folk, of the Interstate Commerce Com-
mission, and Representatives Hefflin, of
Alabama, and Small, of North Carolina.

GENERAL DU PONT RETIRES

Sells Holdings in Powder Company Be-
cause of Ill Health.

WILMINGTON, Del., February 27.—
It was learned here to-night that Gen-
eral Coleman du Pont, president of the
Du Pont Powder Company, has sold his
holdings in the company to a syndicate,
headed by Pierre S. du Pont, acting
president of the concern for several
years. The price paid is said to have
been about \$2,000,000.

General du Pont retires from the
company because of ill health. It is
understood that no outside interests
are included in the syndicate.

MAKE "DRY" LAW TIGHTER

West Virginia Amendments Expected
to Decrease Consumption of Liquor.

WHEELING, W. Va., February 27.—
Amendments to the Vost prohibition
law, which became operative to-day,
are expected to further decrease the
consumption of intoxicating liquors in
West Virginia.

Under the new law it now stands, no
liquor shipments larger than half a
gallon can be brought into the State
unless the quantity and quality are
marked in large black letters on the
package.

FRIEND OF DICKENS DEAD

George Williams Ayllife, Well-Known
Theatrical Critic, Passes Away.

(Correspondence of Associated Press.)
LONDON, February 16.—George Wil-
liam Ayllife, well-known theatrical
critic, is dead at his home on the
Thames, aged ninety years.
As a boy, Ayllife was a great fan-
tast of King William IV. In the late
sixties he joined the staff of a theatri-
cal paper, and, through this connection,
became a close friend of Charles
Dickens.

STOP ALL SHIPPING TO ENEMY NATIONS

Great Britain, France and Their
Allies Advise Neutral Coun-
tries of Action.

EXACT DATE NOT ANNOUNCED

Washington Gets No Word Con-
cerning Attitude on Its Re-
cent Proposals.

LONDON, February 27 (6:50 P. M.).—
Great Britain, France and their allies
have advised neutral countries that
they hold themselves at liberty to stop
all shipping to and from Germany and
the countries of her allies.

Public announcement of this action
will be made early next week. The
text of the declaration will set forth
that this decision is necessary because
of German submarine attacks, but that
Great Britain and France will respect
the lives of crews and passengers in
any steps they may take.

The declaration is not a reply to the
American representations looking to a
cessation of German submarine activity
and the admission of food to Germany
for civilians. The declaration will not
affect cargoes shipped before the date
of this advice to neutrals. The exact
date carried by the declaration has not
been announced, but it is probably Feb-
ruary 28 or 29.

No special articles of commerce will
be mentioned in the British-French
declaration. Cotton and foodstuffs, for
example, will not be specified, but the
terms will be general. The situation
created will be entirely justified, ac-
cording to the English view, because
of Germany's unprecedented action in
attempting a submarine blockade, re-
gardless of danger to the crews and
passengers of ships.

SHIPPING IN BALTIC NOT MUCH AFFECTED

Shipping in the Baltic will not be
affected, except as Great Britain and
her allies prevent supplies from enter-
ing Norway, Sweden and Denmark for
re-exportation to Germany. Holland,
by making its prohibited export list
conform with the British contraband
list, and by the creation of the Nether-
lands intersea trust, to which virtual-
ly all cargoes entering Holland are
assigned, with the government guar-
antee that they will not be exported to
Germany, has put its shipping in a
position which will be slightly affected
by the declaration.

It is believed here that the Scandi-
navian countries, doubtless, will take
similar action to insure continuation
of supplies from America and elsewhere
for home use. While Denmark, Sweden
and Norway have repeatedly modified
the lists of prohibited exports, their
regulations for the prevention of re-
exportation apparently have been un-
satisfactory to Great Britain, or the ad-
ministration of the regulations has
not moved to the Scandinavian coun-
tries with the same freedom as to Hol-
land.

NO WORD CONCERNING ATTITUDE ON PROPOSALS

WASHINGTON, February 27.—No
word came from Great Britain or Ger-
many to-day concerning their attitude
on the American government's propo-
sals for the removal of mines, the
abandonment of submarine warfare on
merchant ships, and the shipment of
foodstuffs to the civilian population of
belligerents.

Both sides were understood to be still
considering the Washington adminis-
tration's suggestions. Replies were
not expected for two or three days.
From the press reports of England's
plans for reprisals, decided on before
the American proposals arrived, of-
ficials did not draw much encourage-
ment for the success of their plan.
They are hopeful, however, that if an
acceptance of all the proposals is not
possible now, there at least will be an
acquiescence by all the belligerents in
the suggestion that mines be removed
from the high seas, except those di-
rectly guarding coast defenses and har-
bors.

COMMUNICATIONS OF INFORMAL CHARACTER

Inquiry as to the form of the Wash-
ington government's latest diplomatic
correspondence with the belligerents
over the war zone problems brought
the information from reliable sources
to-day that the communications sent
identically to Great Britain and Ger-
many were of an informal character,
with a suggestion of three articles
which might be the basis for a "modus
vivendi," technically known among
diplomats as an exchange of
notes, and regarded as a temporary
agreement.

The suggested articles which might
become the "modus vivendi" cover a
plan the details of which are not
worked out in the notes, for the super-
vision by agencies certified to by the
United States government of the distribu-
tion of imported foodstuffs to the
civilian population of belligerents. The
other two articles deal with the re-
moval of floating mines, and the aban-
donment of submarine attacks on mer-
chant vessels. The text is compara-
tively brief.

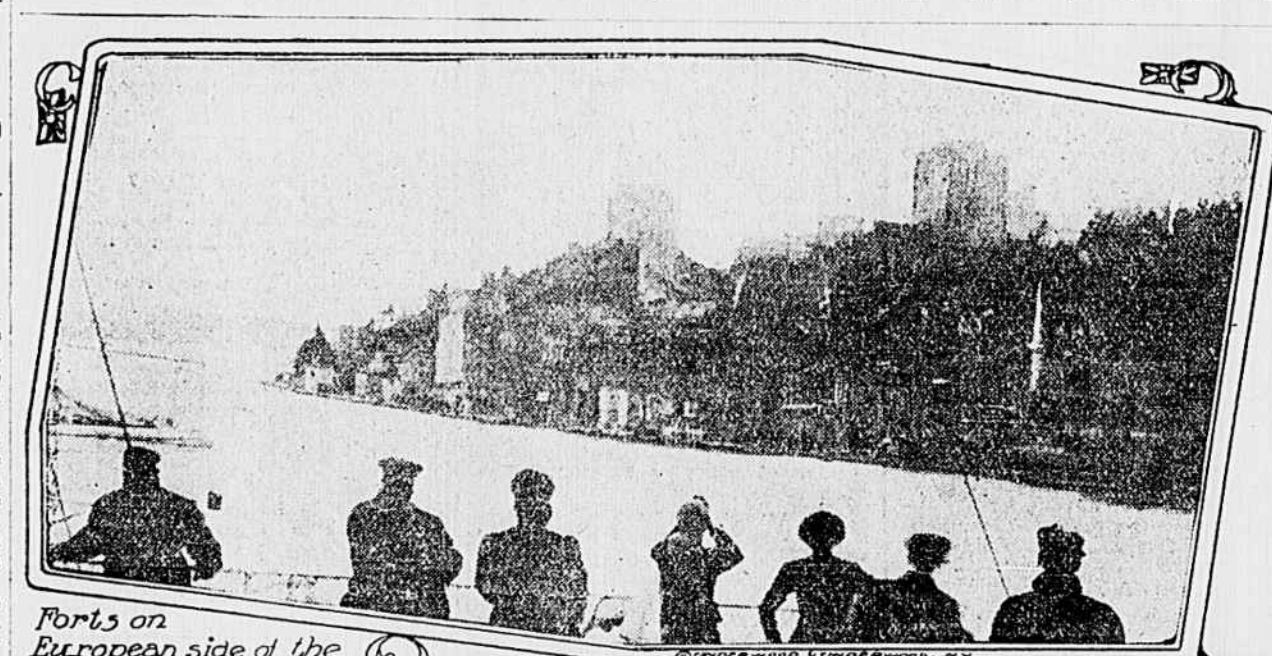
NO CONFIRMATION OF LONDON REPORT

WASHINGTON, February 27.—There
was no confirmation here to-night of
the report from London that neutral
governments had been notified by Great
Britain and heralded that a general
blockade of German ports would be
declared next week. The press dispatch
to that effect aroused wide interest in
official and diplomatic circles as to the
probable course the United States gov-
ernment would pursue.

Authorities on international law
agree that a belligerent has the right
(Continued on Fifth Page.)

ASHESVILLE, "LAND OF THE SKY,"
and other Western North Carolina resorts
particularly inviting in early spring. Varied
amusement. Extensive hotel fares. Ex-
cellent service. Southern Railway. Appl-
y 307 East Main Street.

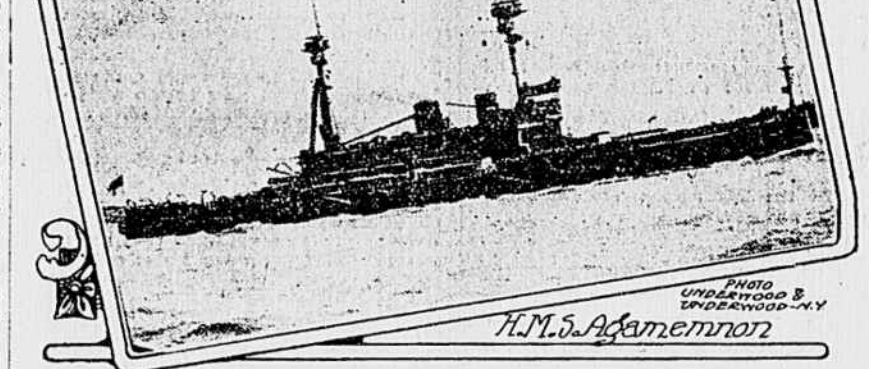
ALLIED FLEET IS FIGHTING WAY TO CONSTANTINOPLE



Ports on
European side of the
Bosporus looking
toward Constantinople



The Sultan



H.M.S. Agamemnon



Thirty-two sea-fighters, composing the allied fleet in the Dardanelles,
shelled and destroyed the Turkish defenses at the entrance to the Sea of
Marmora. The allied fleet is under the command of Vice-Admiral Carden,
and is now proceeding past the Dardanelles and shelling the land fortifica-
tions on both sides of the strait. The fleet is on its way to Constantinople,
and it is predicted that the ancient Mohammedan capital will soon be under
the fire of the English and French ships. The picture shows the Agamemnon,
which took an active part in the bombardment. The Agamemnon, one
of the strongest units of the fleet, is a Dreadnought of 16,500 tons, and was
completed in 1913.

LONDON BELIEVES WAR WILL ENTER ON NEW PHASE

Impression Among Military Men That
German Offensive in North Has
Exhausted Itself.

TIDE IN FAVOR OF RUSSIANS

Much More Fighting, However, Must
Be Waged Before Final Decision Is
Reached—Little Activity of Im-
portance in West.

LONDON, February 27 (10:30 P. M.).—
With Russian successes in the region
of Przasnysz, North Poland, and Kolo-
men, East Galicia; the successful pro-
gress of the operations of the allied
fleet in the Dardanelles, and the deci-
sion of the allied governments to stop
all shipping to and from Germany,
Austria and Turkey, the war, it is be-
lieved here, is about to enter upon a
new phase.

While the success reported by Petro-
grad covers only a small portion of
the long front in North Poland, and the
Germans have been able to record a
countersuccess near Kolno, the general
impression among military men in Lon-
don is that, not only has the German
offensive in the north exhausted itself,
but the tide is turning in favor of the
Russians, who, with railways at their
back, have been able to bring up more
reinforcements than the invading army,
whose communications, after German
territory is left, must cross a country
of marshes and overflowing rivers.

BATTLE IS RESUMED IN CENTRAL POLAND

Much more fighting, however, must
be waged before a final decision is
reached. Meanwhile, the battle has
been resumed in Central Poland, where
the Russians have made a slight ad-
vance, and the engagements in the Car-
pathians, Eastern Galicia and Buko-
vina continue with unabated fury.

From what can be gathered from of-
ficial reports, the Russians, despite the
onslaughts made upon them from all
sides by Austrians and Germans, have
been able to maintain their strength at
all points, and to throw in new troops
where they were necessary. As a re-
sult, the Austro-German plan of com-
pelling them to weaken their centre by
attacking the two extreme wings, has
failed, and, while the Russians have
been forced from East Prussia and
Bukovina, they have been able to make
a stand, and, when reinforced, deliver
counterattacks, which apparently are
making some headway.

The only activity of any importance
in the west is in the Champagne dis-
trict, where the French continue their
offensive.

ROTHA'S ARMY CONTINUES TO MAKE SLOW PROGRESS

General Roth's army continues to
make slow progress in German
Southwest Africa, but this hardly is as
interesting as the news that at the
opening of the Parliament of the Union
of South Africa the guest of honor for
the new British Governor was composed
entirely of burghers in khaki, a duty
which heretofore has devolved upon
British soldiers.

In a letter to Parliament, General
Botha, who is at the front, said he
anticipated the speedy conclusion of
the operations, and appealed for ten-
dency for the rebels, especially the rank
and file, who, he said, "in most cases
acted under compulsion, or were the
victims of wrong leaders."

BEGINS ATTACKS ON INNER FORTS OF DARDANELLES

These Have Stood Between
Turkey and Invasion
by Sea.

SHIPS NOW APPROACHING NARROWEST PART OF STRAIT

No Doubt That Commanders
Have Instructions to Con-
tinue to Capital.

AGAMEMNON HIT; THREE DEAD

Squadron Taking Part in Bombard-
ment Greatest Ever in
Action.

First Line of Mines Swept Away by Fleet

THE great allied fleet of British
and French warships has de-
stroyed the forts at the entrance to the
Dardanelles. The first line of
mines guarding the strait have been
swept away, battleships have pro-
ceeded up the narrow stretch of
water, and now are engaged in
bombarding the inner fortifications.

The former German steamer
Dreadnaught, now under the American flag,
laden with cotton for Germany, has
been taken by a French cruiser in the
English Channel and diverted to
a French port.

Neutral countries have been ad-
vised by Great Britain and her al-
lies that they hold themselves at
liberty to stop all shipping to and
from Germany, and to and from the
countries allied with Germany. This
action will be publicly announced
next week, and it is explained that
it is due to the German submarine
attacks.

Russia, according to official an-
nouncement from Petrograd, has re-
captured the important town of
Przasnysz, North Poland, which
a few days ago it was thought Ger-
many would use as a base for opera-
tions against the Polish capital.
The official Russian statement
speaks of important operations in
this territory, where, it is averred,
the Russian offensive has been vig-
orously pursued, with the German
retreat "spreading over a constantly
widening front."

In the west the French have made
progress in the neighborhood of
Meunier-Hurlus, in the Cham-
pagne district, where about a third
of a mile of German trenches have
fallen into their hands.

LONDON, February 27 (10:17 P. M.).—
After having completed the destruction
of forts at the entrance of the Dar-
danelles, the allied fleet of British and
French warships, the greatest which
has ever been in action, is now at-
tacking the inner forts, which hereto-
fore have stood between Turkey and
invasion by the sea.

Apparently, the outer forts could not
withstand a great bombardment, and
when they had been leveled and de-
serted by their defenders, men were
landed from the ships to complete the
work of demolition, while mine-
sweepers cleared a passage for ships
in the strait.

More serious work is now ahead,
for the all-important fortifications are
at Kilit-Bahr and Chanak, which guard
the narrowest part of the strait, which
the fleet is approaching. There is no
doubt, however, that the allied com-
manders have instructions to make
their way to Constantinople, in spite of
all obstacles, and have been supplied
with the best means for carrying out
these orders.

COMPLETE LIST OF SHIPS NOT NOW AVAILABLE

A complete list of the ships engaged
is not available, but reports from
Athens, and other points say that
twenty large vessels are taking part,
and the report issued to-night by the
British admiralty up to Friday night
mentions no less than ten of these.
Previous reports mentioned others that
were not engaged on Thursday or Fri-
day, the period covered by the ad-
miralty statement.

At the head of the fleet is the Queen
Elizabeth, one of England's latest
super-Dreadnoughts, which has been
commissioned since the war began, and
which mounts eight fifteen-inch guns.
The Queen Elizabeth took part in the
bombardment, so that for the first time
these monster weapons had been used,
and, according to the admiralty report,
they did their work "with great ac-
curacy."

Other ships which assisted in alliev-
ing the outer forts were the British
battleship Agamemnon, which was
struck by a Turkish shell, and had
three men killed and five wounded;
the British battleships Irresistible,
Vengeance, Cornwallis, Albion and
Majestic, each of which carries four
twelve-inch guns, and the Triumph,
which has four ten-inch guns, and the